



The Bridges Federation

Working together for success

PREVENT STRATEGY AND BRITISH VALUES

What is the Prevent Strategy?

The Prevent Strategy:

- responds to the ideological challenge we face from terrorism and aspects of extremism, and the threat we face from those who promote these views
- provides practical help to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support
- works with a wide range of sectors (including education, criminal justice, faith, charities, online and health) where there are risks of radicalisation that we need to deal with.

How does the Prevent strategy apply to schools?

From July 2015 all schools (as well as other organisations) have a duty to safeguard children from radicalisation and extremism.

This means we have a responsibility to protect children from extremist and violent views the same way we protect them from drugs or gang violence.

Importantly, we can provide a safe place for pupils to discuss these issues so they better understand how to protect themselves

What does this mean in practice?

Many of the things we already do in school to help children become positive, happy members of society also contribute to the Prevent strategy.

These include:

- Exploring other cultures and religions and promoting diversity
- Challenging prejudices and racist comments
- Developing critical thinking skills and a strong, positive self-identity
- Promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of children, as well as British values such as democracy

We will also protect children from the risk of radicalisation, for example by using filters on the internet to make sure they can't access extremist and terrorist material, or by vetting visitors who come into our schools to work with children.

Promoting British Values in The Bridges Federation Schools

The DfE have recently reinforced the need *"to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs."* The Government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy, and these values have been reiterated.

British values are promoted in so much of what we do, not least during our schools' assemblies, Religious Education and PSHE sessions.

Our values fulfil requirements for the British values highlighted in the Ofsted inspection framework namely:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual tolerance and respect of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Democracy.

Children are listened to and are taught to listen carefully to others. Children are taught to respect the right of individuals to have their voices and opinions heard. They are taught to discuss issues in a balanced and calm way.

Each year the children review the Class Rules to ensure that they are still relevant.

The School Council meets regularly and discusses issues raised in class or as a whole school. Each council member is voted for by their own class.

Children have recently completed a Safeguarding questionnaire and will soon have a questionnaire where they will be able to put forward their views about the schools

The Rule of Law.

The importance of laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the schools or the country are consistently reinforced at our schools.

Children are taught the value and the reason behind the rules and the laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibility this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as local Police and the Fire Service help to reinforce this message.

Individual Liberty.

At our schools, children are actively encouraged to make the right choices, knowing they are in a safe and supportive environment. Children are expected to take responsibility for their own actions and to understand the consequence their actions might have. We educate and provide boundaries for children to enable them to make informed choices, through a safe and supportive environment. The understanding of rights and responsibilities are promoted through acts of collective worship, e safety, PSHE.

Mutual Respect.

Mutual respect is a core value at our schools. Children learn that their behaviours have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the schools' communities treat each other with respect.

Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs.

The Bridges Federation schools is situated in an area that is not greatly, culturally diverse. Our schools recognise its role in preparing children for life in modern Britain. We actively promote celebrations of different faiths and cultures. The religious education syllabus is the agreed Norfolk syllabus. Through RE and Personal and Social Education we reinforce messages of tolerance and respect.

The Curriculum.

Staff regularly review the curriculum to ensure that it promotes the areas above. It also ensures that children are taught about key events and figures in history. Events during the year celebrate culturally diverse occasions and memorable events taking place in the country.

At The Bridges Federation schools we will actively challenge children, staff or parents who express opinions that are contrary to fundamental British values including extremists views